

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:JWOLF

APPROVED BY:S/S-O:MTANNER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

S E C R E T STATE 253357

EXDIS - MILITARY ADDEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOL SINGAPORE 4609 SENT ACTION SECSTATE KUALA LUMPUR LONDON

OCT 23; REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

S E C R E T SINGAPORE 4609

EXDIS

MILITARY ADDRESSEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

DEPT ALSO PASS TO CINCPAC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, SN

SUBJ: COUNTERINSURGENCY EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING

REF: STATE 250586

1. I INFORMED GOS DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINDEF GOH KENG SWEE ON OCTOBER 23 OF BASIC INGREDIENTS OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT SALES PACKAGE TO SINGAPORE. DAO WILL DISCUSS DETAILS WITH APPROPRIATE MINDEF OFFICIALS.

2. DR. GOH WAS VERY PLEASED WITH SALES PACKAGE, AND APPRECIATED

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EXPLANATION I GAVE HIM IN GENERAL TERMS RE C-130S; WE COULD NOT

ASSURE THIS PARTICULAR TYPE OF AIRCRAFT DUE TO PRIORITY REQUIREMENTS OF US RESERVE COMPONENTS, BUT WE WERE STILL TRYING TO WORK OUT ALTERNATIVES WHICH WOULD SUIT SINGAPORE'S NEEDS.

3. DR. GOH HAD NO PROBLEM RE INFORMING MALAYSIA OF THE TRANSACTION, AND SAID PM RAZAK WOULD BE TOLD PERSONALLY. HE AGREED THOROUGHLY WHEN I EXPLAINED THAT OUR MILITARY SALES PROGRAM TO BOTH SINGAPORE AND MALAYSIA HAD AS A PRIMARY CONSIDERATION THE MAINTENANCE OF CONTINUED TRUST AND FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. CHARACTERISTICALLY HE REMARKED THAT RAZAK WAS "NO PROBLEM", AND BLAMED MALAYSIAN SUSPICIONS OF SINGAPORE ON OTHERS AROUND RAZAK. HE INDICATED FULL APPROVAL OF OUR EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING PACKAGE FOR MALAYSIA.

4. IN SEEKING EARLY APPOINTMENT TO INFORM DR. GOH OF PACKAGE FOR SINGAPORE, I HAD IN MIND THAT OUR POSITIVE RESPONSE MIGHT ADD SOME WEIGHT TO OUR ARGUMENTS REGARDING GOS SUPPORT ON KOREAN ITEM IN UNGA. HOLDRIDGE UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY EQUIPMENT, MILITARY TRAINING, COUNTERINSURGENCY, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE253357
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:JWOLF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750370-0663
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751023/aaaaaupw.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 250586
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <17 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COUNTERINSURGENCY EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, PINS, US, SN, MY
To: CINCPAC
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006